
ELEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

INSPECTORS

OF THE

STATE ALMSHOUSE,

AT TEWKSBURY.

OCTOBER, 1864.

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Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

INSPECTORS' REPORT.

*To His Excellency JOHN A. ANDREW, Governor, and the
Honorable Council :*

The Inspectors of the State Almshouse at Tewksbury, beg leave herewith to present their Eleventh Annual Report.

The year just closed has not had its parallel in the history of the institution so far as relates to the vastly increased cost of every article used here. The last year had not had its equal in this respect ; but the present one far surpasses that and all others since the house was first opened. In our last Report it was our pleasure to show by actual figures, notwithstanding the very high price of all articles used here that year, that we had arrived at a point in the *per capita* expense of the inmates, far below anything before known since the organization of the Institution, even in the most favorable years when articles of consumption were at the lowest point.

It has been our desire and aim to produce a similar result the present year, but owing to the high state of the market it has been impossible to maintain that standard. The farm has been less productive this year owing to the excessive drouth of the season.

There have been improvements made in the cooking rooms in the inmates' department, by removing the old and nearly worn out kettles, and putting in new of an improved kind, the expense of which was borne by the use of an unexpended balance of the last year's appropriation.

In the fall of 1862, eighteen of the large boys were put out at a place in Beverly, represented to be a branch of the Hon. John B. Alley's shoe establishment, to learn the trade of making shoes; at the expiration of about one year information was received by the Inspectors that the boys were in the hands of other parties, yet pursuing the same business as before. Information was also received that the boys were not properly treated.

Upon this the Inspectors, together with the Superintendent, went to Beverly to examine into the case, and we are sorry to say the information proved too true, so much so we were obliged to remove them to the almshouse. They were put into the school where they remained for several months. From the fact that these boys had been at work on shoes for one year, and as we were informed, had made good proficiency in the business, the idea suggested itself to the Board and Superintendent to set them at work on shoes as they had been for the previous year, as a matter of experiment to be tested by actual figures in a pecuniary point of view; not only that, but we believed it would result in a better condition of the boys, by affording them an opportunity to finish their trade and at the same time to give them an opportunity to acquire a business education by attending school a part of the time. This matter having been put under the direction of the Superintendent, we refer you to his report for a more detailed account.

It will be seen by the inventory of the personal property the present year, that the amount far exceeds that of the last.

The appraisal of the personal property for the years 1862 and 1863, was carefully made by the whole Board of Inspectors.

It was decided by the Board of Inspectors the present year, that the appraisal should be taken by an outside person; consequently the services of David Bryant, Esq., of Boston, who had previously taken the inventory, were procured, and the appraisal was made by him, which appraisal exceeds that of last year in amount by \$18,594.26. The cause of this large variation will be found on the records at the almshouse, and also in the Superintendent's report.

The school is in a prosperous condition under the instruction of the Rev. Mr. Foster as principal, and Mrs. Foster and Miss

Dearborn as assistants, to whom much praise is due for their very efficient labor.

The Rev. Mr. Foster also officiates as Chaplain, whose very able report will accompany our own, to which we invite your attention.

The general health of the inmates of the institution is quite good; for particulars you are referred to the report of the Physician. The skilful and watchful care of Dr. Brown is worthy of our highest commendation. The efficient and self-sacrificing nurse, Miss Winsby, merits our high regards.

We wish to call your attention to the insane department; the accommodations for both males and females are quite too limited for a healthful condition, with the present number. The appropriation which was made by the last legislature, viz., \$10,000, to erect a building on the grounds at Tewksbury of suitable size to accommodate one hundred harmless insane persons, has been found to be quite insufficient to accomplish the object designed. There should be, in our judgment, an additional appropriation of sufficient amount to carry out the object contemplated.

In our Report of last year we called your attention to the practice of persons coming and leaving the institution at their will. This state of things exists to a great extent. We cannot and should not reject applicants for relief and support when it is clear to our minds that they are proper objects of charity. The difficulty lies mainly with those persons (and they are not few) who, by their debauchery and vice, become partially broken down and incapable of taking care of themselves. Some come, and many more are sent to the almshouse to pass a few weeks or months, as the case may be, in the way of recruiting and regaining their health, by receiving good nursing and kind treatment, and when all this is accomplished they ask for their discharge, and it is clear that we have no power to retain them. The question then is, whether able-bodied persons, as many of them become, should not be required to remain long enough to pay some equivalent for their support by their labor; we think there should be legislation on this subject.

In justice to our very efficient Superintendent and his wife, the Matron, it gives us pleasure to say they labor together with

unabated zeal in their various and arduous duties, which are not few, and at times very trying.

The Assistant Superintendent, as a disciplinarian and a manager of men and boys' help, is of great service to the institution ; in fact the subordinate officers generally are laboring earnestly in the discharge of their various duties.

GEO. P. ELLIOT,
F. H. NOURSE,
HORACE P. WAKEFIELD,

Inspectors.

TEWKSBURY, October 1, 1864.

Agreeably to the statutes of the Commonwealth the following table is presented :

Live Stock,	\$6,935 49
Carriages and Agricultural Implements,	2,529 91
Machinery and Mechanical Fixtures,	11,139 94
Beds and Bedding, Inmates' Department,	15,578 44
Other Furniture,	6,267 67
Personal Property of State in Superintendent's Department,	4,555 37
Ready-made Clothing,	8,044 97
Dry Goods,	2,073 80
Provisions and Groceries,	2,152 50
Drugs and Medicines,	567 97
Fuel,	810 12
Library,	305 63
Products of Farm on hand,	7,094 84
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	\$68,056 65
Real Estate,	\$107,889 39

This is to certify that the foregoing is a true Schedule and Appraisal of the Personal Property and Real Estate at the State Almshouse at Tewksbury, belonging to the State, Sept. 30, 1864. The Appraisal was made by me, and is correct, according to my best judgment.

DAVID BRYANT, *Appraiser*.

Then personally appeared before me David Bryant, and made oath that the above Schedule and Appraisal is correct, according to his best knowledge and belief.

TWICKSBURY, MIDDLESEX, ss., Oct. 3, 1864.

Subscribed and sworn to before me.

THOS. J. MARSH, *Justice of the Peace*.

There has been paid as follows, for

SALARIES.

George P. Elliot, (<i>Inspector</i>), one year,	\$160 00
Francis H. Nourse, (<i>Inspector</i>), one year,	160 00
Horace P. Wakefield, (<i>Inspector</i>), from February 15, 1864, to October 1, 1864,	100 00
Daniel P. Fitz, (<i>Inspector</i>), from October 1, 1863, to February 15, 1864,	60 00
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	\$480 00

OFFICERS.

Thomas J. Marsh and wife, (<i>Superintendent and Matron</i>), one year,	\$1,500 00
Jonathan Brown, (<i>Physician</i>), one year,	900 00
Elisha Huntington, (<i>Consulting Physician</i>), one year,	100 00
Thomas J. Marsh, Jr., and wife, (<i>Assistant Superintendent, Clerk, and Seamstress</i>), one year,	450 00
Charles F. Foster and wife, (<i>Chaplain and Teachers</i>), from February 21, 1864, to October 1, 1864,	304 79
James Poor, (<i>Farmer</i>), one year,	390 00
T. P. Bartlett and wife (<i>Watchman and Nurse</i>), one year,	400 00
A. C. Lawrence and wife, (<i>Engineer and Dairymaid</i>), from October 1, 1863, to March 21, 1864,	355 65
Samuel L. Furness, (<i>Engineer</i>), from May 30, 1864, to October 1, 1864,	200 95
Abel Patten, (<i>Chaplain and Teacher</i>), from October 1, 1863, to December 8, 1863,	46 00
Isabella G. Patten, (<i>Teacher</i>), from October 1, 1863, to February 17, 1864,	59 50
H. Willard and wife, (<i>Cook and Laundress</i>), from October 1, 1863, to March 1, 1864,	166 67
George Goodall, Jr., (<i>Assistant</i>), from October 1, 1863, to April 7, 1864,	123 95
John R. Mills, (<i>Assistant Farmer</i>), from October 1, 1863, to December 25, 1863,	82 50
M. F. Hutchins, (<i>Teamster</i>), from October 1, 1863, to March 1, 1864,	85 00
Martha B. Marsh, (<i>Dairymaid</i>), one year,	156 00
Sarah A. Winsby, (<i>Nurse</i>), one year,	156 00
D. A. Gorham and wife, (<i>Cook and Laundress</i>), from March 6, 1864, to June 30, 1864,	95 33
Jennie B. Dearborn, (<i>Teacher</i>), from March 3, 1864, to October 1, 1864,	90 40
Nellie M. Marsh, (<i>Seamstress</i>), from April 1, 1864, to October 1, 1864,	78 00
Richard H. Austin, (<i>Teamster</i>), from March 10, 1864, to June 30, 1864,	74 46
A. F. Ellwell and wife, (<i>Assistant Farmer and Cook</i>), from April 1, to April 26, 1864,	20 50
George A. Dane, (<i>Engineer</i>), forty days,	80 00
Charles H. Trull, (<i>Assistant Farmer</i>), from May 4, 1864, to October 1, 1864,	121 85
Ada Trull, (<i>Laundress</i>), from June 27, 1864, to October 1, 1864,	40 28
Harriet M. Kimball, (<i>Assistant</i>), from March 27, 1864, to October 1, 1864,	79 71
A. S. Barnard, (<i>Cook</i>), from June 2, 1864, to October 1, 1864,	99 19

George G. Spofford, (<i>Teamster</i> ,) from July 27, 1864, to October 1, 1864,	\$54 11
Francis E. Gleason, (<i>Teacher</i> ,) from December 2, 1863, to February 18, 1864,	58 17
	<hr/>
	\$6,849 01

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

To the Inspectors of the State Almshouse, at Tewksbury :

GENTLEMEN,—I have the honor to submit herewith the Eleventh Annual Report of this institution, being the seventh which it has been my duty to prepare. Accompanying it, are the customary statistical and financial details, which have been made up with unusual care, and are believed to exhibit an accurate account of our transactions for the year, and the present condition of the institution.

As the year that is past has been unlike any of its predecessors, so its cares and anxieties have exceeded those of all. The unprecedented rise in the cost of the most necessary articles of food and clothing, of labor and fuel, would alone have made it all but impossible to support an average population of seven hundred and thirty-three with an appropriation based upon ordinary prices. But when to this is added the partial failure, by reason of the excessive drought, of those crops on which we place our greatest reliance, and the withdrawal of the able-bodied, who have in time past performed most of our labor, it would be surprising if the appropriation were not largely overrun. I need not remind you of our earnest and united labors to meet this exigency. It has called for the exercise of the strictest economy consistent with humanity, and of every expedient our ingenuity could devise. The result is before you, and can hardly fail to afford you complete satisfaction. The sum total of all our net expenses, ordinary and extraordinary, for the year ending September 30th, 1864, will fall short of \$50,000.

The improvement of the farm has been continued to an extent limited only by our lack of laborers. In this respect, we have suffered in common with the other institutions, and have been

forced to rely almost solely on the old men and the harmless insane. We are now engaged in reclaiming a meadow of some seventeen acres, which will add greatly to the value of the farm, and to its capacity for producing butter and milk. The statement of its products will be found under the appropriate head.

The question is often asked, Why are not the inmates of the almshouse provided with some permanent employment other than merely agricultural or domestic labor? — as, for instance, in the State prison and houses of correction? The answer is ready.

1st. A very large majority of the inmates is composed of young children and those entirely unfitted, by weakness of mind or body, for any labor soever.

2d. The care of this class, and the varied labors incident to maintaining an establishment containing from six hundred to one thousand souls, are sufficient to occupy nearly all the rest.

3d. The few adults that might be so employed are committed for no special period, and generally claim and receive their discharge within a few weeks from their admission. The time, therefore, is too short to employ, or even to instruct them in any kind of handicraft.

That a step might be taken in the right direction, I proposed to you, nearly a year ago, that the experiment of manufacturing shoes on the premises should be fairly tried, and that the boys who were usually bound out to learn this trade should be retained and taught it here. It occurred to me that, while acquiring the trade and performing an amount of labor that would fully remunerate us for their support, they might attend school for a portion of every day and secure as good an education as children regularly attending the common schools outside the almshouse. At any rate, they would be held, during a critical period of life, under a wholesome discipline, kept away from many temptations, and saved from the possible severity and avarice of a too exacting master. After consultation with the Board of State Charities, whose sanction was obtained, you approved the scheme, and a commencement was made.

Little was to be expected for the first year, and yet less in a year like the past, in the way of net profit;—for machinery and

tools were to be purchased, the lads to be broken in to their work, and a very high price to be paid for stock and oversight. But the trial has nevertheless succeeded ; and, in spite of all obstacles, resulted in a positive pecuniary gain. But money is nothing compared with the advantages which the boys have secured from the arrangement, which, if fairly carried out to the end, will send them into the world well taught and trained, and masters of a trade which will support them for the present and enable them to provide for the future. The details of this experiment will be found in the financial statement.

A similar experiment with the older girls has also resulted successfully. Attending school in the forenoon, in the afternoon they have assembled in a separate room for instruction in sewing and knitting. Their progress thus far has been commendable, and a reliable corps of neat seamstresses will thus be always at hand for the exigencies of the house.

A knitting machine, capable of turning out three dozen pairs of stockings per day, has been placed in their apartment, and they are learning to finish the stockings and will soon be able to manage the machine. This disposal of them is far better, in my judgment, than to place them in families where their treatment will be at best uncertain, and where they are likely to form undesirable associations while yet of a tender age. It must be added that the presence of these older girls and boys in the school, forming, as they do, a permanent class, imparts life and vigor to the whole body of pupils, and is regarded by the teachers as a valuable auxiliary in their labors.

The health of the institution, during the year, has been better than could have been expected, considering the large number of foundlings sent in, and the unusual proportion, to the whole number admitted, of feeble persons and those already in the last stages of disease. For full details of the sanitary condition of the house, I beg to refer you to the elaborate report of its physician.

A great improvement is visible in the schools, which have averaged during the year about one hundred and fifty pupils. Mr. and Mrs. Foster, the teachers, as well as Miss Dearborn, in charge of the primary department, are admirably adapted to their difficult task, and their zeal and devotion, amid many discouragements, are worthy of all praise.

By the action of the Board of State Charities, fifty-eight harmless and incurable lunatics have been transferred to this almshouse from the hospitals at Worcester and Taunton, since October 1st, 1863; and not a few have been voluntarily sent hither from the towns.

They have generally conducted themselves well; many of them become useful laborers, and some eventually leave the institution in a condition of mind and body to provide for themselves. The mortality among them appears to be no greater than in the other classes of inmates, if indeed it is so large.

You are aware that at the last session of the legislature, on the application of the above-named Board, an appropriation of \$10,000 was made to erect a suitable building for this class of inmates; to which was added an appropriation of \$15,000 to provide accommodations for the criminal insane.

The action of that Board appears to have been induced by the following reasons:

1st. The necessity of relieving the overcrowded hospitals, and thus making room for new applicants.

2d. The belief that the recovery of the curable cases was retarded, if not prevented, by the presence of so many pitiable objects, who were themselves gaining nothing by a longer residence.

3d. The hope that their condition might be bettered by assigning all who could do even a trifling amount of work to some suitable department of labor.

4th. The opportunity thus afforded for a better classification within the hospitals.

5th. The obvious economy of the change.

My experience with this class of persons assures me, that, if suitable quarters were provided, their comfort and happiness would be enhanced by the transfer; and that some who are now an expensive burden might, by careful training, become nearly or quite self-sustaining.

I therefore deeply regret that the sudden increase in the price of materials and labor has rendered it impossible to commence the work with any hope of completing it within the appropriation. As the mere difference in the cost of supporting the number specified for removal would be \$7,000 per annum, the building, if constructed upon the plans furnished, would

be paid for by this difference in two years, and the same amount would be annually saved thereafter. It appears, therefore, very desirable that the legislature should make such additional appropriation as will allow its immediate erection.

Your attention is respectfully invited to the difficulties resulting,—

1st. From the want of a specific power, duly limited by law, to retain inmates claiming their discharge, when such a step would not only be inexpedient, but a positive injury to the individual and the community.

2d. From the absence of any legal power to reclaim or punish absconding inmates.

3d. From the omission of the law to punish the desertion of infants by their unnatural mothers.

The silence of the statutes on these three points is not only prejudicial to the discipline of the almshouses, but imposes a heavy burden upon their superintendents and supervisors.

Furthermore, it adds greatly to the cares and annoyances of the municipal authorities, and is the source of serious loss to the State.

In closing this brief report, I desire to acknowledge with gratitude the efficient service rendered by the several officers of the institution, and your own cordial sympathy and friendly aid in the inevitable trials and toils of this position ; but above all, to recognize the watchful care of Him who “forgetteth not the congregation of the poor,” but is ever “the widow’s God, and the Father of the fatherless.”

THOS. J. MARSH, *Superintendent.*

STATEMENT NO. 1.

Statistics of Inmates.

Number in the house at the commencement of the year, . . .	633
Admitted during the year,	2,094
Discharged,	2,079
Supported,	2,727
Births,	67
Deaths,	199
Number of children who have been provided with homes, . .	34
Weekly average,	733
Present number,	648

Of the 2,094 admitted during the year, there were from

Boston,	1,082
Lowell,	230
Tewksbury,	138
Lawrence,	95
Born in house,	67
Charlestown,	59
Cambridge,	49
Salem,	47
Lynn,	36
Woburn,	34
Taunton Lunatic Hospital,	33
Worcester Lunatic Hospital,	25
Gloucester,	18
Andover,	16
Somerville,	14
Chelsea,	12
Haverhill,	10
Waltham and Newburyport, 8 each,	16
Concord,	7
Beverly and Malden, 6 each,	12
Framingham, Stow, and North Andover, 5 each,	15
Rainsford Island, Hopkinton, Stoneham, Ipswich, Medford, Pepperell, Newton, and Winchester, 4 each,	32
Marlborough, Billerica, Danvers, North Reading, Brighton, State Industrial School (Lancaster), Watertown, and Essex, 3 each, . .	24
Shirley, Groton, Bedford, Amesbury, and Bradford, 2 each, . .	10
Methuen, Walpole, South Danvers, Lexington, Reading, West Newbury, Fitchburg, Holliston, Westford, Rockport, Natick, Acton, and Melrose, 1 each,	13

2,094

The following table shows the number admitted each month, age when admitted, and sex :

MONTHS.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Under 10.	Between 10 and 20.	Between 20 and 30.	Between 30 and 40.	Between 40 and 50.	Between 50 and 60.	Between 60 and 70.	Between 70 and 80.	Over 80.
October, . . .	103	50	53	20	20	16	10	13	11	6	6	1
November, . .	89	47	42	23	9	17	12	14	5	6	2	1
December, . .	218	104	114	51	16	45	39	31	19	14	3	-
January, . . .	213	108	105	41	25	40	35	31	28	10	3	-
February, . .	212	80	132	59	21	51	45	15	12	7	2	-
March, . . .	118	55	63	27	17	30	23	12	6	3	-	-
April, . . .	79	43	36	25	7	13	12	8	5	4	5	-
May, . . .	134	71	63	30	14	33	21	14	11	8	2	1
June, . . .	207	90	117	65	20	49	33	15	11	10	4	-
July, . . .	236	103	133	75	35	46	27	20	12	10	10	1
August, . . .	213	98	115	47	27	43	40	25	17	7	3	4
September, .	272	128	144	68	46	52	50	24	21	6	4	1
Totals, . . .	2,094	977	1,117	531	257	435	347	222	158	91	44	9

STATEMENT NO. 2.

Nativity of Inmates.

Ireland,	878
Massachusetts,	640
British Provinces,	99
England,	83
Maine,	75
New Hampshire,	54
Unknown,	52
Scotland,	39
New York,	31
Virginia,	20
Vermont,	18
Rhode Island,	14
Pennsylvania and Germany, 12 each,	24
Maryland and Connecticut, 11 each,	22
France,	8

At Sea, North Carolina, New Jersey, Western Islands, and West Indies, 3 each,	15
Louisiana, Iowa, South Carolina, Georgia, Portugal, Italy, and Russia, 2 each,	14
China, Austria, Poland, Sicily, Spain, Hungary, Alabama, and Ohio, 1 each,	8
	<hr/> 2,094

STATEMENT NO. 3.

Estimated amount of Produce raised on Farm.

English hay,	63 ⁵⁵⁹ / ₂₀₀₀ tons.
Meadow hay,	3 ⁷⁶⁵ / ₂₀₀₀ "
Cabbage fodder,	1 "
Corn fodder,	11 "
Millet, &c., fed 25 cows 2½ months.	
Potatoes,	1,500 bush.
Carrots,	230 "
Beets,	400 "
Mangel wurtzel,	110 "
Sweet corn,	42 "
Pop corn,	25 "
Corn,	456 "
Peas,	75 "
English turnips,	270 "
White beans,	60 "
Tomatoes,	280 "
Onions,	360 "
Cabbage,	560 heads.
Squash,	2,500 lbs.
Beef, pork, and veal,	33,883 "
Hides,	2,677 "
Tallow,	761 "
Wood, hard and soft,	70 cords.
Manure,	338 "
Milk,	18,293½ gals.

STATEMENT NO. 4.

Account of Purchases.

Agricultural and mechanical tools,	\$840 29
Cheese and eggs,	21 39
Crockery,	83 98
Dry goods,	5,435 93
Flour, 1,208 barrels,	9,512 50
Fresh and salt fish,	1,671 92
Furniture,	556 11
Hay, straw, and grain,	2,914 49

Hardware,	\$99 60
Improvements,	782 34
Lumber,	251 59
Live stock,	2,883 59
Meats and provisions,	5,663 10
Medicines,	627 40
Plaster, lime, and ashes,	14 60
Repairs,	1,138 98
Soap and soap stock,	208 90
Shoe stock,	2,827 75
Smith work,	199 91
Services and wages,	8,009 87
Stationery, newspapers, postage, and books,	344 49
Transportation of passengers,	469 24
Transportation of freight,	711 83
Vegetables,	1,044 88
West India goods and groceries,	6,102 18
Wooden ware, brooms, &c.,	124 23
Wood and coal,	435 65
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	\$52,976 74

STATEMENT No. 5.

Cost of Support of Inmates.

The following statement will exhibit the financial condition of the institution, and the amount which it has cost the State to "maintain, enlarge, and renew" the entire establishment for the year ending September 30, 1864:

Inventory of property on hand October 1, 1863, as appraised	
by the Inspectors,	\$49,462 39
Cash on hand October 1, 1863,	2,935 50
Cash received from Treasurer,	49,739 09
Cash from all other sources,	3,648 13
	<hr/>
Total debit,	\$105,785 11

Inventory of property on hand October 1, 1864, as	
appraised by David Bryant, Esq.,	\$68,056 65
Cash on hand,	3,393 13
Amount due for goods sold,	960 00
Total credit,	<hr/>
	\$72,409 78
Which, deducted from the total debit, leaves as the total cost	
for the year,	\$33,375 33
Dividing by 733, the average weekly number, we have as the	
cost of each inmate for one year,	\$45 53 $\frac{1}{4}$
Dividing by 52, the number of weeks, we have as the average	
weekly cost,	\$0 87 $\frac{56}{100}$

This is exclusive of interest on the construction account, which,
 if included, would add $154\frac{9}{2}$ cents to the above amount,
 making the weekly cost, with interest, \$1 03 $\frac{84}{100}$

The amount of cash drawn from the treasury and expended for the purposes above-named is	\$49,739 09
Amount received from other sources and so expended is . . .	3,190 50
Total drawn and expended,	<u>\$52,929 59</u>

Assessing this upon the inmates, we have as the yearly cost of each,	\$72 21
Weekly cost of each,	1 38 $\frac{5}{2}$

Now why this apparent difference of some fifty cents in the weekly cost as calculated by these several methods?

It is because the articles purchased with this money have not all been consumed, but remain on hand in large quantities, as proved by the Inventory of 1864, which is \$68,056.65, against \$49,462.39 in 1863, showing an increased value on hand of \$18,594.26.

It is true that a portion of this increase is due to a higher valuation of certain fixtures and furniture, in accordance with the present market prices, but the great bulk of it represents the supplies purchased with the money drawn, and not yet consumed. It is probable that the precise cost per week for the year, without interest, varies but little from one dollar per week; and with interest, \$1.16.

STATEMENT No. 6.—*Shoe Account.*

DR.

CR.

1863. Sept. 30,	1864. Sept. 30,	
To shoes and shoe stock on hand, as per Superintendent's Report,	\$847 80	By shoe machinery and tools on hand,
shoes and shoe stock bought from Oct. 1, 1863, to Sept. 30, 1864,	2,839 01	shoes and shoe stock on hand, appraised value,
shoe machinery and tools on hand, as per Superintendent's Report,	201 00	960 pairs women's shoes, on consignment,
shoe machinery and tools bought from Oct. 1, 1863, to Sept. 30, 1864,	423 89	balance, cost of shoes for house, the current year,
paid for labor and instruction,	258 00	
	<u>\$4,569 70</u>	
		<u>\$624 89</u>
		1,749 77
		960 00
		<u>1,235 04</u>
		<u>\$4,569 70</u>

STATEMENT No. 7.—*Milk Account.*

DR.

CR.

1864. Oct. 1,	1864. Oct. 1,	
To interest on appraised value of twenty-five cows,	\$90 48	By 73,174½ quarts milk at 4½ cents,
depreciation on dairy furniture, and interest,	12 50	veal and calf skins,
hay, grass, and grain,	2,205 68	
profit on milk,	1,124 81	
	<u>\$3,433 47</u>	
		<u>\$3,292 85</u>
		140 62

PHYSICIAN'S REPORT.

To the Inspectors of the State Almshouse at Tewksbury :

GENTLEMEN,—In reviewing the records of my department for the last twelve months, and condensing such facts as are admissible in a tabular form, I find a few things to which I would respectfully call your attention.

The number of cases of sickness,—one thousand five hundred and eighty-four, as shown by the annexed table,—is an increase over the number of last year, although we have had no epidemic disease in the house, except the seventy-five or eighty cases of measles in the months of July and August last.

We have admitted, this year, a much larger number of sick people to the institution, than during the same length of time for a number of years past. These admissions include every variety of disease that poverty, vice, exposure and intemperance can produce. We have also received largely of old people, broken down constitutions and imbeciles. If table No. 1 is examined, you will find four hundred and eighteen cases on record, for drunkenness and venereal diseases alone,—more than one-fourth of the number on the sick list for the year. These, of course, on admission to the institution, were taken directly to the sick-wards. To these, also, you may add the cases of consumption, heart disease and palsy, as well as a large part of the cases of many of the other complaints.

From the mass of diseased humanity, in connection with an unprecedented number of foundlings and infants deserted by their mothers, sent to us from our large towns and cities, we have a bill of mortality a little larger than last year, when we had a severe epidemic among the children. It will be seen in table No. 2, that the foundlings and deserted infants come in for

quite a large item in our statistics of mortality, — thirty-four of the former, and twelve of the latter,—making forty-six of both classes having died during the year. Many of these infants, on arrival at the institution, are in such an exhausted condition, that it is evident on sight that the little vitality they have will soon go out; and of the others, the almost total absence of motherly sympathy and affection, in the attentions they receive from the unwilling inmates, (foster-mothers,) in whose care we are obliged to place them, in connection with their unnatural diet,—for we cannot obtain wet nurses for them,—soon reduces any chances there may have been at first, for a favorable result in the case.

The number of deaths of our population, between two and twenty years of age, as shown in table No. 2, has been eleven, and between five and twenty, but four. Inmates between five and twenty years of age, are much less liable to fatal disease than those younger or older. With us, the past year, the inmates between two and twenty years of age have been remarkably healthy.

The number of deaths among our insane population, for the year, has been eleven. Our insane, as a class, according to my observation in years past, have had about the same amount of sickness resulting fatally, in proportion to numbers, as the other adult inmates of similar constitutions.

The whole number of deaths, for the year, has been one hundred and ninety-nine.

The number of births, for the same time, has been seventy-three. All the mothers recovered in due time.

I wish here to acknowledge the uniform courtesy and kindness, which you, gentlemen, and also the Superintendent and Matron have extended to me during the year just closed.

With much respect, I remain
Your obedient servant,

JONATHAN BROWN, *Physician.*

STATE ALMSHOUSE, TEWKSBURY, }
October 1, 1864. }

TABLE No. 1,

Showing the No. of Cases of Sickness in the State Almshouse, Tewksbury, from Oct. 1, 1863, to Sept. 30, 1864, with the No. for each Month, and the Names of the Principal Diseases; also, the Average Number on the Sick List, for the Year, and for each Month.

DISEASES.	Total.	October.	November.	December.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.
Conjunctivitis,	101	18	7	7	6	8	10	4	2	12	10	7	10
Debility,	101	12	3	8	9	13	5	3	3	12	13	5	15
Dropsy,	4	-	-	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-
Fever, Ephemeral,	50	2	4	4	3	4	7	2	11	7	2	3	1
Typhoid,	22	2	-	2	2	3	-	1	2	3	-	3	4
Heart Disease,	14	2	-	2	1	1	1	1	3	-	3	2	1
Marasmus,	10	4	-	-	1	1	2	-	-	-	-	2	-
Puerperal,	71	3	2	3	2	7	9	7	5	11	10	6	6
Rheumatism,	35	1	1	2	3	1	3	2	8	6	2	3	3
Other Diseases, (Miscellaneous,)	60	10	3	6	3	2	2	8	4	4	2	8	8
<i>Diseases of Alimentary Canal.</i>													
Cancerum Oris,	28	5	1	5	-	1	2	2	2	1	2	5	2
Cholera Infantum,	7	2	-	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	1
Diarrhea,	53	10	-	1	3	6	1	1	1	2	9	14	10
Irritation of Stomach,	25	2	-	2	1	5	1	1	1	-	5	5	2
Tonsillitis,	10	2	-	1	2	1	2	-	1	-	-	1	-
Other Diseases of Alimentary Canal,	12	5	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	2	1	2
<i>Diseases of Nervous Centres.</i>													
Alcoholismus,	177	9	1	25	30	23	17	2	5	22	23	13	7
Delirium Tremens,	17	2	3	4	1	1	-	-	1	-	1	1	3

Paralysis,	12	4	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	—	—	2	—	1
Other Diseases of Nervous Centres,	27	4	1	3	1	3	4	1	1	4	1	—	4	1	2
<i>Diseases of Respiratory Organs.</i>															
Influenza and Cold,	53	4	3	16	8	5	6	2	—	4	1	1	4	3	3
Phthisis,	69	11	3	4	7	6	5	2	4	10	3	5	—	4	4
Pleurisy,	11	—	—	2	2	3	1	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia,	24	3	1	7	5	2	2	1	2	—	—	1	—	—	—
Other Diseases of Respiratory Organs,	19	5	—	2	1	2	—	1	3	2	1	1	2	1	1
<i>Diseases of the Skin.</i>															
Erysipelas,	16	—	—	1	1	8	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	—	—
Rubeola,	81	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	13	—	—	—	—	—
Scabies,	16	1	—	4	1	1	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlatina,	16	—	—	1	—	3	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Variola,	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Varicella,	9	6	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Diseases of the Skin,	25	4	—	1	3	2	3	—	3	2	2	3	2	2	2
<i>Surgical Diseases.</i>															
Abscess,	35	5	3	3	4	4	1	—	—	6	1	2	6	1	5
Burns, Scalds, Sprains, and Bruises,	34	3	—	7	5	8	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	5	—
Fracture,	8	3	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Frost-bite,	5	—	—	—	2	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ulcer,	67	12	1	8	8	3	5	—	—	4	—	3	4	7	4
Venereal Disease,	224	15	5	27	22	21	10	11	9	23	30	37	23	14	14
Other Surgical Diseases,	29	8	—	1	7	4	—	—	2	3	—	3	3	1	1
Totals,	1,584	180	45	161	147	157	112	64	91	157	198	153	157	119	119
Average number on the sick list,	141	104	94	119	155	164	170	131	121	165	166	137	165	166	166

TABLE No. 3,

Showing the Number of Births in the State Almshouse, Tewksbury, during each Month, from October 1, 1863, to September 30, 1864, with a Statement of the Sex, and whether Illegitimate, Twins, or Stillborn, the Birth-place of the Mothers, and the whole Number since the opening of the Institution.

MONTHS.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Illegitimate.			Twins.	Stillborn.	Birth-place of Mothers.				
				Males.	Females.	Total.			United States.	Ireland.	England.	British Prov.	Other Countries.
October, . .	3	1	2	-	2	2	-	-	-	2	-	1	-
November, .	2	1	1	-	1	1	-	-	1	1	-	-	-
December, .	3	2	1	2	1	3	-	-	1	1	-	-	1
January, . .	2	-	2	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
February, .	8	5	3	3	3	6	2	-	1	5	-	-	1
March, . .	9	3	6	1	2	3	-	1	1	6	-	2	-
April, . .	8	3	5	2	4	6	2	-	1	6	-	-	-
May, . .	5	4	1	4	1	5	-	1	1	3	-	1	-
June, . .	10	6	4	6	4	10	-	1	2	8	-	-	-
July, . .	11	6	5	3	1	4	-	-	-	9	1	1	-
August, . .	6	5	1	3	1	4	-	2	1	4	-	1	-
September, .	6	5	1	3	1	4	-	1	4	2	-	-	-
Totals, . .	73	41	32	27	22	49	4†	6	13*	47*	1*	8*	2*
Whole No. since opening of the Institution, .	793	408	385	-	-	-	28	67	113	547	28	60	31

* Mothers of illegitimate children,—

Born in United States,	10
Ireland,	30
England,	1
British Provinces,	4
Other Countries,	

† Both pairs of twins were illegitimate, and had Irish mothers.

CHAPLAIN'S REPORT.

To the Inspectors of the State Almshouse, Tewksbury :

GENTLEMEN,—My appointment dates only from the 22d of February last, at which time I entered upon the duties of the double office made vacant by the death of my predecessor. I shall bring to your notice both departments of my work, in a combined report. In such an institution as this, the Principal of the school has necessarily more to do with the religious development of his pupils than any one else, and the Chaplain also finds that his most hopeful field of labor is with the young. While, therefore, the spiritual wants of the adults have not been neglected, special attention has been given to the moral and religious training of the children. They have been admonished to avoid the vices, to which many of them in their previous course of life have become predisposed, and they are assisted in breaking off habits already formed.

The system of government which has been pursued in school, as well as the kind of effort put forth at other times for the inculcation of moral truth, have been as far as possible of a parental character. In the most of cases this has been sufficient, without resort to compulsory measures. Instances are repeated, in which children coming to the almshouse from the lowest associations of vice, have readily yielded to such direct appeals based upon the law of love, and are now reckoned among our best boys and girls. The complete isolation of the boys in their play-ground has tended much to improve their general deportment, and it would be well, if practicable, that the same provision should be made for the girls. The Sabbath school, under the direction of the Superintendent, is

a valuable aid, and the marked interest which the scholars manifest in their Bible lessons is an encouraging feature.

The services upon the Sabbath have been well attended, and we may hope, from the good attention paid, that the truth has not been wholly lost. Other efforts for the benefit of the adults have consisted of religious conversation, and the circulation of the Scriptures and religious books. In a few cases, among the sick and dying, these labors seem to have been of a hopeful character, and good purposes have been formed, if actual reform has not followed.

It does not become me to speak at any length of the present condition of the school. I cannot withhold the expressing of my hearty thanks, which are due to the Superintendent, for the facilities which he has been so ready to afford for every improvement that I have desired. I am assisted in the two grades of the school by Mrs. Foster and Miss Dearborn, who are interested, and as I believe, highly successful in their work.

There are many serious discouragements attending the task of taking children of all ages and mental capacities, from all sorts of previous associations, every day of the week, and starting them in a course of mental and moral training. First, they are to be classified, and then disciplined. Many of them stay just long enough to awaken a little hope in their case, and then they leave us, and their places are filled by raw recruits. The practice adopted the past year, of retaining a few of the older boys, by giving them employment a part of the day, is attended by advantage in this respect, both to teachers and scholars. These boys constitute the nucleus of classes to which new comers attach themselves, and by becoming assimilated to our system of training in this way, are helped along in their studies and in the formation of character. The plan of working half a day, and studying the other half, promises well, aside from the benefit to the boys in the acquirement of a good trade. I find them the more interested in the school by this intermission from study. The value of the time spent in school seems to be the better appreciated, and their progress is greater in proportion to the extent of this appreciation.

Regarding this institution in a charitable point of view, whether as affording a temporary or permanent home for poor children, whose misfortune it is, and not their sin, that they

have no comfortable homes of their own, we must feel that the school is of the first importance, and that in connection with the labors of this department, we may confidently expect the blessing of God.

Respectfully submitted by

CHARLES F. FOSTER,

Chaplain and Teacher.

